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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FISHERY ADVISORY GROUP RECOMMENDS STEPPED-UP RESEARCH PROGRAM

The American Fishery Advisory Committee, at its fourth meeting held in Chicago on October 11 and 12, urged immediate implementation of a greatly expanded and balanced program of technological, biological, economic and marketing research and services to be financed with the additional money now available under the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, Fish and Wildlife Service Director John L. Farley reported today.

The Service Director presided over the meeting as Acting Chairman.

The Saltonstall-Kennedy Act which was passed in 1954 to promote increased production and marketing of domestic fishery products was due to expire on June 30, 1957. The Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, approved by the President on August 8, extended the provisions of the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act on a permanent basis. The limitation of \$3 million annually for research has been removed and the entire amount of 30 percent of gross customs receipts on fishery products now becomes available on an "annual accrual" basis.

The Committee reaffirmed its previous recommendations regarding the use of a series of criteria for judging project proposals on a broad national basis which were developed at its first meeting in April 1955. It recommended continuance of contract research where a specific type of specialized research can best be done by universities or private research organizations. The Committee expressed concern over the ability of industry to out bid the Service in recruiting and holding highly trained technicians.

The 16 members of the Committee who attended the meeting were: Harold R. Bassett, Salisbury, Md.; Lawrence Calvert, Seattle, Washington; James S. Carlson, Boston, Massachusetts; Chris Dahl, Kayler-Dahl Fish Company, Petersburg, Alaska; Mark L. Edmunds, Garibaldi, Oregon; David H. Hart, Cape May, New Jersey; Leon S. Kenney, St. Petersburg, Florida; Donald P. Loker, Terminal Island, California; J. Richards Nelson, Madison, Conn.; Moses Pike, Eastport, Maine; H. F. Sahlman, Fernandina Beach, Florida; Thomas F. Sandoz, Astoria, Oregon; Arthur Sivertson, Duluth, Minnesota; Lawrence W. Strasburger, New Orleans, La.; Earl B. Webster, Brownsville, Texas, and Alphonse J. Wegmann, Pass Christian Isles, Mississippi.

The next meeting of the Committee is tentatively scheduled for Biloxi, Mississippi, in the spring of 1957.

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